



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
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March 10, 2004

**TO:** Washington State Board of Health Members

**FROM:** Carl Osaki, Board Member

**RE: UPDATE ON WATER RECREATION RULE REVISIONS**

**Background and Summary**

The Board last made significant revisions to the rules regulating water recreation facilities in April 1990. It was the first major change to the rules since 1956. The code was renumbered in 1992 following the establishment of the Department of Health as a separate executive agency and it now constitutes chapter 246-260 WAC.

On Nov. 1, 2000, the State Board of Health filed a CR-101 (WSR 00-22-112) announcing it was considering changes to these rules. The Department of Health convened a task force comprised of public health experts and stakeholders to review the current rule (see attached membership list). The task force has completed its review and the Department has developed proposed rules. It is prepared to ask the Board to file the new rules with the Code Reviser in the form of a CR-102 and requested that the Board hold a public hearing at its May 12 meeting.

I have asked Maryanne Guichard, DOH Director of Environmental Health and Safety, and Gary Fraser, Water Quality Program Manager, to come before us today and brief the Board on the proposed changes in advance of the hearing. In particular, I have asked them to address proposed changes that are likely to have a significant impact on public health or on the owners and operators of pool facilities. An overview of anticipated changes is attached, along with the timeline and the draft Small Business Economic Impact Statement, which explains many of the major issues.

These changes do not deal with bathing beaches, which the Board and Department expect to take up soon as a separate rule revision.

**Recommended Board Action**

None.

Attachments